

FAIRGROUNDS 2000

Summer Update 2003

In 1996, the Indiana State Fair Commission approved a \$40 million plan to renovate the Indiana State Fairgrounds for the new millenium. This newsletter details the latest renovations taking place.

East Pavilion becomes Champions Pavilion after major renovations

The East Pavilion has been renamed the Champions Pavilion to reflect the significant changes that are occurring to the 88-year-old structure that is primarily used to house the draft horses during the Fair. This \$8 million project will not be completed until 2004, but visitors will immediately notice the new broomed concrete floor with adjoining walls covered by a new roof.

The original dormitory, built in 1922, is being renovated rather than reconstructed. These renovations include the floor, restrooms and showers, a meeting room and a new ADA-compliant restroom. The upstairs of this part of the building will be converted into dorm rooms and an apartment. There will be air conditioning and heating throughout, as well as a new fire alarm and sprinkler system. All of this will be completed for the 2004 State Fair.

The entire structure will actually be larger than the original, expanding from 77,527 square feet to 88,044 square feet, due in large part to the restructuring of the old dorm. There will also be a 2,343 square-foot, all-brick connector extending from the southeast side of the exhibit building to the Marsh Blue Ribbon Pavilion. Overall, the new structure is designed to be a companion to the Marsh Blue Ribbon Pavilion.

Phase two of the renovations to be completed after the Fair includes a new north lobby that will be similar to the new West Pavilion lobby, updated lighting and electrical capabilities throughout and new wash racks and loading docks. All these improvements will allow us to not only enhance our ability to host the State Fair, but also in hosting other annual events like the Boat, Sport & Travel Show and the Hoosier Horse Fair & Expo. Look for the new Champions Pavilion renovations to be completed by spring!



Greetings from our Commission Chairman



Dr. Gene Sease

Ah...Once again summer is here and the State Fair is rapidly approaching!

As Chairman of the Indiana State Fair Commission, I remain proud of the confidence that Governor O'Bannon has placed in me to guide this dedicated organization as it again plans to roll out one of the finest fairs held in North America.

My thanks go to my fellow Commission members, State Fair Board members, the Commission staff and countless volunteers who dedicate so much time and effort to ensure that this event is a success.

794,000 people attended the Fair in 2002...our fourth attendance record in the past five years. We are confident that there are enough new and exciting features in store for this year's crop of Fair visitors that a crowd of similar size will visit us as long as mother nature and weather are willing to cooperate.

As with the past several years, construction and renovation continue to greet Fairgoers. Visitors will be pleased to see a completely reconstructed Dairy Bar along our Main Street. This project, undertaken in cooperation with Milk Promotion Services of Indiana, updates an aging landmark, ensuring quality service for this Fair staple for many years to come.

Our customers will also note that the Draft Horse Barn is being renovated and while construction has been suspended for the Fair, this building will mirror the Blue Ribbon Pavilion to its south when it reopens early next year. Don't fret! The very popular Draft Horse exhibits will still be housed in the building during this year's Fair.

A project worthy of mentioning...even though it will not be completed until 2004...is the Commission's commitment to rebuild and renovate two of the three 4-H Buildings in our northwest corner. By next year's Fair, the Commission's commitment to 4-H programs will be stronger than ever!

The remainder of this brochure highlights other features and items of interest for visitors when they arrive for the Fair.

In closing, please be assured that I remain proud to be involved in an event that holds such a special meaning to so many of our state's citizens.

Gene E. Sease



NEW DAIRY BAR HAS DIFFERENT SHAPE, MORE SPACE



Old Dairy Bar

There is also increased storage and a walk-in freezer that allow for more products to be stocked and accessed. Also, the Dairy Bar menu will include soft serve frozen yogurt for the first time.

The Indiana State Fair Commission is pleased to work with Milk Promotion Services of Indiana in a partnership that will have that organization repay the Commission the cost of this new structure over the next several years, thus allowing Fairgoers to continue to visit and enjoy this State Fair landmark for many years to come.

The popular Dairy Bar has a completely new look! This Fair favorite, previously styled like a traditional barn, now resembles a historic Indiana round barn after a \$320,000 reconstruction. The square footage of this round structure is now 2,800 feet compared to 1,500 square feet in the old facility that dates back to 1959. It has 12 service windows (compared with five) and ADA accessibility to help patrons get served more quickly and conveniently.



New Dairy Bar

New for the 2003 Indiana State Fair

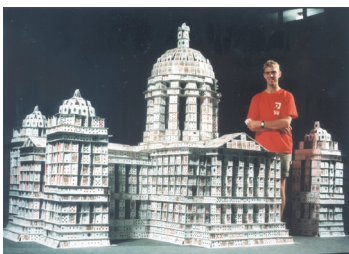
Five great new exhibits to see every day!

The Children's Museum Presents FLIGHT: Where Adventure Takes Off!:

Learn about the wonders of flight in this interactive exhibit at the Edy's Grand Hall.

Lewis & Clark: Corps of Discovery II: Experience the journey of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark as it relates to the natural history, cultural resources and the people of our nation in Entertainment Park.

Live Shark Encounter: See a variety of dangerous shark species interacting with divers in a 9,000-gallon traveling saltwater aquarium in the Pfizer Fun Park.



Bryan Berg - Card Stacker: Watch the world's premiere card stacker create amazing structures made entirely out of playing cards in the Edy's Grand Hall.

Indiana State Fair Goat Mountain: Observe various breeds of goats on display in a natural habitat just east of the DNR building.

4-H in Indiana will be 100 years old in 2004 and the Indiana State Fair is marking the occasion with a \$5 million renovation of two of the 4-H buildings on the Fairgrounds' northwest corner. These changes will occur as well as exterior landscaping improvements in a coordinated effort that will transform the entire area to provide not only a more beautiful "gateway" to the 4-H projects, but also a more functional area for visitors, exhibitors and performers.

The 4-H Exhibit Hall and the building to its south that used to serve as the boys dormitory are undergoing substantial improvements. The Exhibit Hall will receive a new roof, doors, windows, elevator and restrooms. It will also have air conditioning and heating for the first time, and will have its third floor converted to adult apartments that will accommodate up to 20 people.

In addition, the dramatic landscaping changes include a new fountain and two nine-and-a-half-foot identity markers. The fountain is part of a two-foot wall that will surround a horseshoe-shaped, pristine lawn. The wall will have the 4-H motto inscribed on the front and many new trees and shrubs will be planted all around. As a result of these improvements, the WFMS Free Stage will be relocated toward the Natural Resources Building with upgraded electrical capabilities and there will be space for an additional 15 concession or commercial exhibit stands near the main road.

The other building will have a new roof, doors, windows, brickwork, elevator, restrooms, air conditioning and heating. Most of its walls will be removed, enabling visitors to see from one side of the building to the other on all levels. The majority of this renovated space will be additional exhibit space. There will be a new material lift to help large displays be transported inside. The apartments will be turned into space for offices, storage and a new learning center as well as dorm space for up to 50 4-H'ers. There will be new lighting, upgraded electrical facilities and phone lines as well as fresh paint. A new connector will join both buildings.

